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Letter from S. H. Harris to "Dear brother." 16 September 1866

S. H. Harris

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Craigfordville, Sept. 9th 1866

My dear brother

I received a note from you dated the 1st inst. yesterday evening. You asked me why I had not written. The truth is I have had nothing of a pleasing nature to write about. I have had the Blues for the last month, & ~~am~~^{have} not risked to write to you for fear I might communicate the disease.

Rain - rain. it rains all the time. It is raining now with a very flattering prospect of its continuance until about the middle of December. Our chances for a crop are gone. Although ours is acknowledged to be the best crop in the neighborhood, yet if we get seventy bales (which would be our bale to four acres) we will be doing well. The bollworm & the Caterpillar have both taken up their abode with us. & the weather we are having is a strong encouragement for them to stay. I have been able to gather about ten bales of cotton, & am now entertaining the idea of dismissing all the hands as there is but a poor prospect of our having any weather suitable for gathering any more.

Added to this, the price of cotton, which
won't go up. & you can form some idea
of the immense amount we will realize
from this year's crop. I think we will
make some 12 or 1400 bushels of corn,
& will get some two or three hundred
more from our tenants. In the account of
the cotton prospect I have given you, I
neglected to mention our interest in our
tenants' crop. I think we will realize
from them some three or four bales. Bear
in mind, this is independent of our own
crop. I calculate on our crop paying
the expenses of the place, & our interest in
our tenants' crop being the net proceeds.

I frequently make extravagant calcu-
lations, & this may prove to be so, but I
am determined to think so, until convinced
to the contrary.

The Rev. John Baldwin wants to
buy the house & lot in Columbus. I sent
him word that I could not dispose of
it without your consent, & he thereupon
wrote to you. I think he will give a pretty
good price. Gov. Whipple sold his lot for

Nine Thousand (\$9000) dollars. & John
Billups sold his for Eight Thousand.

Our place is very much out of repair.
The out. houses need a good deal of work
upon them, & the palings are all down.
I would have had the place fixed up, but
I have had no money. Under these circum-
stances, I think if we can prevail
upon the Parson to give us Nine Thousand
dollars, or something near it, we ought to
be satisfied.

Direct all your letters to me at Concord-
ville. I have moved down, bag & baggage.

Love to all

Affectionately Your Brother
S. H. Harris